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## The truth about Reader's digest

Sender Garlin

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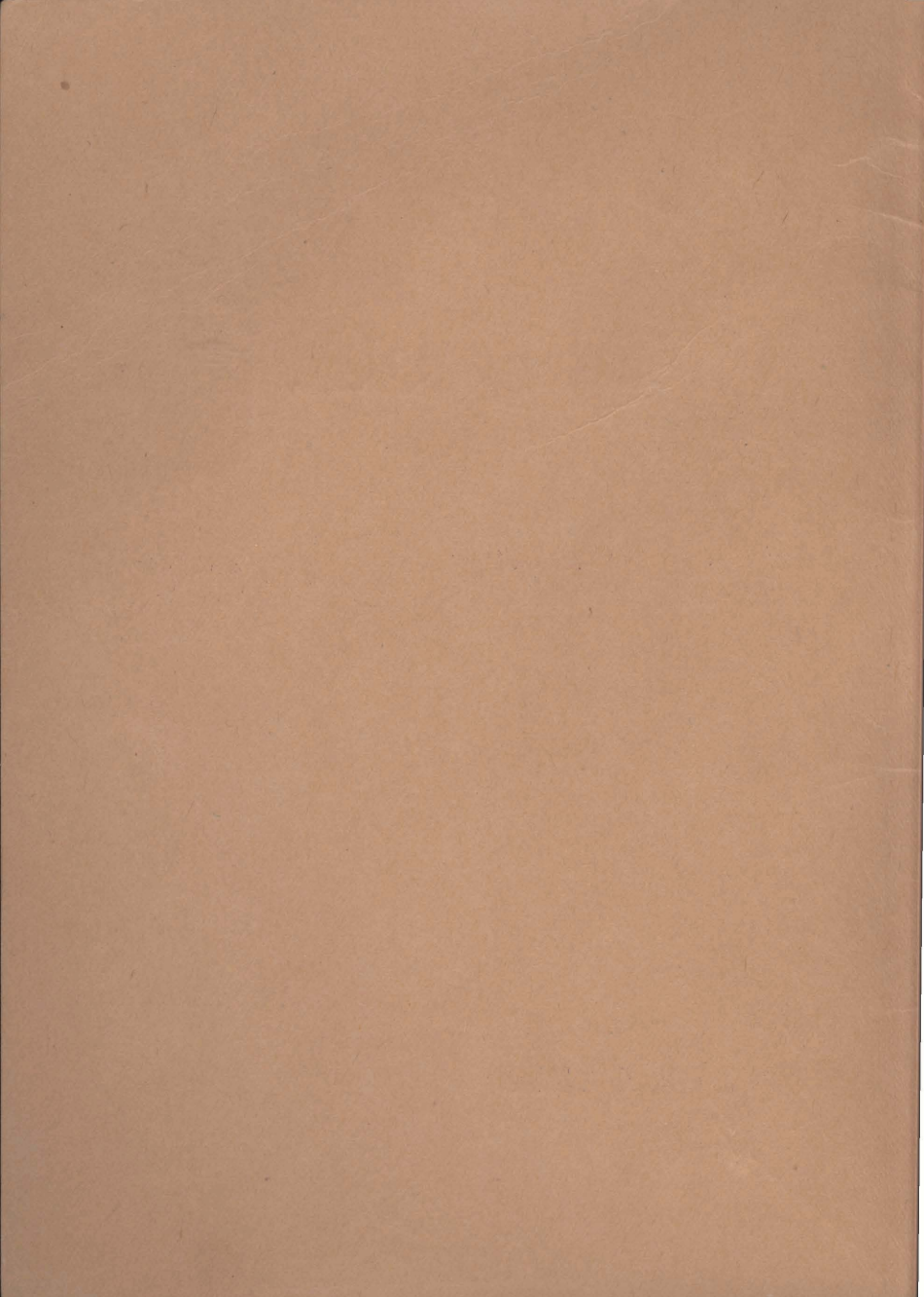
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*The*  
*Truth*  
*about* } → → → →  
**Reader's Digest**

Handwritten: *Handwritten*

by  
**SENDER GARLIN**

Price ~~10~~ Cents



# *The Truth About* **Reader's Digest**



**BY SENDER GARLIN**

*Illustrations by William Gropper*

*Published by*  
**FORUM PUBLISHERS**  
45 Fourth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.



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*Second Printing, February 1943.*

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NEW YORK, N. Y.

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**R**EADER'S DIGEST is one of the most widely circulated publications in the United States. The magazine's growth has been phenomenal. The first issue appeared in February, 1922; its press run was 5,000. By the beginning of the next year there were 7,000 subscribers, and DeWitt Wallace and his wife, Lila Bell Acheson Wallace, moved from 1 Minetta Lane, in Greenwich Village, to the garage with living quarters over it owned by Pendelton Dudley, New York publicity man, in Pleasantville, N. Y. Three years later circulation was 20,000.

Today, boasting 7,000,000 sales (including its Latin American edition) *Reader's Digest* operates from Pleasantville where the Wallaces rule the organization in the spirit of benevolent feudalism. Editors and office employes are encouraged to live in Pleasantville where they can be "looked after" in the spirit of Henry Ford's service department and kept free of outside influences.

To the unsuspecting reader the idea behind the magazine appears to be a good one. The "average American" has neither the money, time nor inclination to read the

scores of weekly and monthly publications that flood the news-stands. Hence the presumption that *Reader's Digest* serves as a clearing house for "articles of lasting interest." This, perhaps, explains why the magazine has succeeded in achieving such a wide influence.

*Reader's Digest* makes a special appeal to the men in the armed services of the U. S. and to the nation's school children and university students.

For the past five years it has paid special attention to school circulation. In 1937 it hit on the plan of giving an "honorary" gift subscription to the valedictorian of every high school in the United States. The response, the magazine reported five years later, was "so immediate and cordial" that the offer has been repeated each year since and extended to include the 30,000 high schools of both the U. S. and Canada.

Three years ago *Reader's Digest* announced that over 20,000 teachers in 12,000 schools of the U. S. were using the magazine each year in their classroom work. At the same time it disclosed that 406 colleges and universities—one out of every four in America—found the magazine "helpful" in teaching programs.

Energetic subscription drives are also conducted regularly in an effort to reach the thousands of forums, women's clubs and other discussion groups.

*Reader's Digest* offers half-subscription rates to the men in the armed forces of the U. S.



Americans, therefore, involved with other millions of the United Nations in a war of survival against Axis barbarism, owe it to their country to determine whether this magazine is aiding—or hampering—the cause of victory against Hitlerism.

### *Is It Really a 'Digest'?*

What is the true story of *Reader's Digest*?

Its claim to objectivity is challenged by its many violently prejudiced articles, over a long period, against the Roosevelt administration, Loyalist Spain, the Soviet Union, and the coalition of the United Nations.

Its claim to objectivity is challenged by its recent appointment of Paul Palmer as a “senior editor” of the magazine. While editor of the *American Mercury* some years ago, Palmer was responsible for playing up Lawrence Dennis, the “intellectual” spokesman of the home-grown American fascists.

Its claim to objectivity is challenged by its recent appointment of Max Eastman as a “roving editor” of the magazine. Eastman has been for many years a leader of the “hate-Russia” crowd which includes such professional anti-Sovietees as Eugene Lyons, William Henry Chamberlin, and Jan Valtin, recently arrested by U. S. authorities as a dangerous enemy alien.

Millions of Americans who buy *Reader's Digest* each

month accept on faith the legend that it is a "reprint" magazine.

As a matter of fact, more than fifty per cent of certain issues of *Reader's Digest* have been known to be so-called original articles, solicited by the editors. Thus, its pretense that the magazine is a "digest" of noteworthy articles reflecting objectively and honestly current trends in American periodical journalism warrants strict examination.

In an article on *Reader's Digest* which could hardly be called unfavorable, *Fortune* magazine, in its November, 1936, issue wrote:

"It [*Reader's Digest*] not only pays generous fees to 35 magazines for exclusive reprint privileges but even supplies certain of the magazines, gratis, with original articles which *Reader's Digest* proceeds to condense and reprint. . . ."

And again:

"No secret," wrote *Fortune*, "is the fact that in the case of more than one struggling magazine the *Digest* payments have come to make the difference between red ink and black."

In other words, by paying for the pretext of "reprinting" articles *Reader's Digest* has itself ordered and planted!

More evidence on the "reprint" game:

"By now *Reader's Digest* had the money and talent



to produce a bang-up nonfiction article. So Editor Wallace turned around and offered his original articles free to magazines that wanted them. Since the practice began . . . articles have been printed in a dozen magazines like *Scribner's*, *American Mercury*, *Rotarian*, etc. The advantages are multiple. To magazines whose editorial standards are higher than their bank balances, a good article is a large gift. To *Reader's Digest*, it means cozier relations with the editors. Also it means better reprints from the small circulation magazines. . . . " (*Fortune*, Nov. 1936).

### ***Mr. Wallace's 'Philosophy'***

Publisher Wallace, it would appear, is a most philanthropic individual. "The present fat payments (to magazines for cooperation on the "reprint" game—S.G.) are by way of reimbursement for early sacrifices." We learn also from *Fortune* magazine that "the spirit behind Mr. Wallace's generosity is that of profit sharing." *Fortune* explains that Mr. Wallace's lust for profit sharing "and an apparent distaste for accumulating more money than he can use to intelligent purpose" are the mainsprings of his life. We also discover, parenthetically, that despite Mr. Wallace's dread of accumulated profits, "in all likelihood he is more than once a millionaire."

Its practice of soliciting articles and planting them



FRANCO  
*Glorified in Reader's Digest*

in other magazines, publishing them simultaneously in *Reader's Digest* as "reprints," perhaps explains the amazing frequency with which *Reader's Digest* "republishes" articles from the *American Mercury*.

By this device a publication like the *Mercury*, whose own circulation is infinitesimal and whose character has nothing to commend it to serious and patriotic readers, is given an audience of millions and is virtually subsidized through payments for articles planted in its pages.

### ***How It 'Buttered Up' Franco***

One article which *Reader's Digest* did not "plant" but actually reprinted, fitted the editorial needs of the magazine perfectly. It was the shameless piece, "On Franco's Side in Spain," written by Ellery Sedgwick, then editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*. (The article was taken from the *New York Times*). Published in *Reader's Digest* of May, 1938, the article created a scandal. Sedgwick later resigned from the *Atlantic Monthly*.

The author had described Franco Spain as a veritable Garden of Eden: neither prices nor taxes had gone up, the war had added nothing to the national debt, food was more than plentiful, wages had risen, Franco received only his officer's salary, his cabinet worked for nothing, the rich gave gifts, countless civilians and offi-



cers served only for the love of serving and—of course—there was no profiteering!

At the height of Charles Lindbergh's activity as a leader of America First, *Reader's Digest* solicited and published his "Aviation, Geography and Race." The article, which appeared in its issue of November, 1939, was a faithful rewrite of the Nazi "world view."

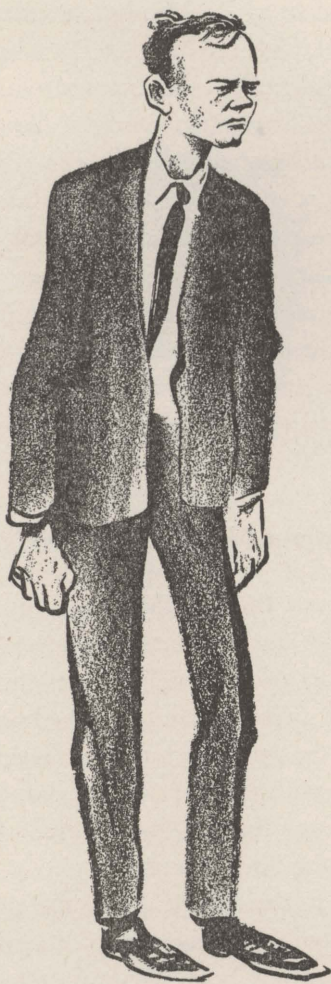
Lindbergh talked of "the danger of that physical decline which so often goes with a high intellectual development, of that spiritual decline which seems invariably to accompany an industrial life, of that racial decline which follows physical and spiritual mediocrity."

He added: "We, the heirs of European culture, are on the verge of a disastrous war within our own family of nations, a war which will reduce the strength and destroy the treasures of the White race, a war which may lead to the end of our civilization." He urged "united strength among ourselves" which would include "an English fleet, a German air force, a French Army," etc.

A digest of Anna Morrow Lindbergh's book, "The Wave of the Future" in the November, 1940, issue of *Reader's Digest* continued the line of her husband in more mystical language.

A condensation of Mrs. Lindbergh's article was used in the first Latin American edition of *Reader's Digest*.

In its May, 1940, issue, the magazine carried a "di-



LINDBERGH

*Presented Nazi "world-view"*



gest" of an article by Earl Reeves, entitled, "Why Russia Can't Fight."

(Reeves, incidentally, collaborated with Gen. Robert Lee Bullard on "American Soldiers Also Fought," recommended to me last summer by the Alabama "White Supremacy" leader, Horace C. Wilkinson, as a book which would convince me of the unfitness of Negro troops for military service.)

One of the publications from which *Reader's Digest* has taken articles is the ill-famed *Scribner's Commentator*, which is under federal indictment charged with conspiracy "to impede, obstruct and defeat . . . the National War Effort."

### ***Cover-Up for Defeatists***

It is significant that in the two and one-half years since then, in which history has registered its refutation of that thesis, *i.e.*, the "inability of the Russians to fight," this "objective" *Digest* has not had the honesty to reprint a single one of the countless magazine articles attesting to the military magnificence of the Red Army, and explaining the social basis for the "unexpected" fighting power and morale of the Soviet forces.

A mere nod in this direction was the publication of a brief reprint from *Life* magazine of a section of the late Alexander Poliakov's book, *Russians Don't Surrender*.

This followed a veritable orgy of anti-Soviet articles. The publication of the brief Poliakov reprint was in recognition of the fact that even the publishers of *Reader's Digest* could not blind themselves to the immense public admiration for Russia and its epic fight against the Nazi war machine.

The most notorious anti-Soviet propagandists have found a haven in *Reader's Digest*. During the past two years it concentrated heavily on the job of working up prejudice against America's valiant ally, the USSR.

### ***Sponsored Jan Valtin***

The history of *Out of the Night*, Jan Valtin's lurid and self-contradictory best-seller, is the story of one of the biggest literary hoaxes perpetrated upon the American reading public.

Issued by the relatively obscure publishing house of Alliance, Valtin's book was quickly catapulted into the best-seller list via its selection by the Book-of-the-Month Club and a chorus of praise by most of the book reviewers of the commercial press.

*Out of the Night* was widely utilized in the fascist-inspired campaign which gave birth to the "Communazi" slogan, and anti-Soviet elements saw in the book a handy political weapon.

Almost two years after the publication of *Out of the*

*Night* the U. S. Government wrote the definitive review of the book.

In its verdict on Valtin (whose real name is Richard Julius Herman Krebs) who was appealing against a deportation order, the Board of Immigration Appeals declared:

" . . . Within the past five years the subject (Krebs) has been considered an agent of Nazi Germany."

The decision also contained other significant characterizations, such as, that Valtin-Krebs' career has been "...so marked with violence, intrigue and treachery that it would be difficult, if not wholly unwarranted, to conclude that his present reliability and good character have been established. . . . The evidence presented did not show that Krebs has been a person of good moral character for the past five years. On the record before us, it appears that he has been completely untrustworthy. . ."

On the day that the U. S. Board of Immigration Appeals rendered its verdict—November 24, 1942—Krebs was arrested at his Bethel, Conn., estate on orders of Attorney General Francis Biddle as a dangerous enemy alien.

Documentary proof that Valtin-Krebs served the Gestapo is found in the official text of the decision. This evidence, published first in the *Daily Worker*, showed that a German anti-fascist seaman was doomed before the Nazi hangmen through Valtin's testimony.



## ***Glamorize Gestapo Agent***

"Independent inquiry," the U. S. Government decision sets forth, "reveals that Krebs was a material witness for the German Government and that his testimony was instrumental in securing a treason conviction in 1934 against a fellow member of the I.S.H. [International Seamen and Harbor Workers] at a time when the alien [Krebs] alleges he was a Nazi antagonist."

This is the mountebank whom *Reader's Digest* and its publisher, Wallace DeWitt, dished up in the March, 1941, issue of the so-called *Digest*.

Although *Reader's Digest* peddled Valtinism to 7,000,000 readers, it would be unfair to the publication to assert that it had an exclusive monopoly. Columnists, book reviewers and radio commentators vied with one another in extolling Valtin's fantastic and self-contradictory story. (Writing in *The New Yorker*, Clifton Fadiman said: "I do not know how much of it is true; the author, for example, seems to have been born at several different times.")

But Fadiman was one of the rare skeptics. The book was praised by William Henry Chamberlin in *The New York Times*, and Vincent Sheean in *The Herald Tribune*; Ed Fitzgerald, reviewing *Out of the Night* on WOR, let himself go completely and called the book "*The Count of Monte Cristo* set in a different key."



VALTIN

*Sponsored by Reader's Digest*



Because the author of this pamphlet refused to be taken in from the very start, Walter Winchell attacked him in his syndicated column of April 10, 1941.

Wrote Winchell:

"Because the book *Out of the Night* has done the best job of squelching the Communists since rat poison was invented, the comrades have launched a smear campaign against the book and the author. They have tried all kinds of tricks, and their latest is to send out lecturers, whose subject is presumably literature, but they are actually Communist propaganda agents. This is to warn the nation that the name of one of the lecturers is Sender Garlin. Don't be fooled by this man."

A similar "warning" was issued soon after by *News-week* and other publications—all taking their cue from the omniscient Winchell.

### ***The 'Mirror' Comes Around***

But twenty months later the sheet which publishes Winchell's column in New York ate Winchell's words in a most curious manner, for in reporting the arrest of Valtin by the U. S. authorities *The Daily Mirror* wrote:

"The Department of Justice denounced Valtin as having failed to prove 'good moral character.' In effect, the decision means he perpetrated a huge literary hoax." (*Daily Mirror*, Nov. 25, 1942).

Even the phrasing was remarkable, for twenty-one months earlier the present writer had declared:

"The Book-of-the-Month Club and the critics are trying to put over a gigantic hoax upon the American reading public."

And Winchell's verbal assault followed soon thereafter!

One of the things which *Reader's Digest*, in introducing Valtin's "masterpiece" to its millions of subscribers, failed to record was that the author of *Out of the Night*, true to his Nazi traditions, was an anti-Semite.

Proof of this is found in the official records of the Los Angeles Superior Court (Case No. 28625) before which Valtin-Krebs was tried on a charge of assaulting a Jewish merchant, Morris Goodstein, at 711 E. 5th St., Los Angeles, Calif., in 1926.

Krebs testified, following his arrest, that he attacked his victim because "The Jew made me mad."

That Valtin-Krebs is regarded as an enemy of our nation by conservative Jewish opinion in the U. S. is evidenced by the editorial in *The American Hebrew* of Dec. 4, 1942.

"Richard Krebs, the Nazi agent," wrote that publication, "has now been recognized as such by the U. S. Government. . . . The case of Valtin is roughly comparable to that of Rasputin. This dubious, sinister per-

son succeeded in charming large numbers of the most respectable people in his country."

*The American Hebrew* called attention to the frequency with which Valtin-Krebs had addressed Jewish-American groups, and cautioned Jewish organizations "to be more careful of the company they keep."

Speaking from the bench in Krebs' Los Angeles trial, presiding Judge Edwin F. Hahn had said:

"I am impressed with the belief that the defendant (Krebs) is not entirely normal-minded."

Support for this belief is found in the Feb. 8, 1941, issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. In the column, "Tonics and Sedatives" (Dr. Pepys' Diary) is found the following statement, following a reading of *Out of the Night* while on a plane trip:

"Jan. 30. So eventide fell and old Pepys flew high over Pittsburgh and a snowstorm back to Chicago and read James Hilton's *Random Harvest* which is cunningly composed and *Out of the Night* by Jan Valtin, which is an autobiography sadistically conceived out of an interesting imagination."

An "interesting imagination" is probably what explains the strange death of one Ilia Raikoff. . . .

References to Ilia Raikoff are found on pages 462, 476, 477, 478, 535, 536, 543 and 598 of *Out of the Night*. Raikoff, you see, was "a former Czarist officer" who worked for the "dread GPU" in Flanders.



## ***The Death and Life of 'The Ox'***

The death scene is a memorable one:

"Beneath their feet the black water of the river gurgled against the stones. The Ox stood on the edge of the quay as if he were thinking, and abruptly he whirled and struck at the Greek's face. In the same instant Avatin plunged his dagger into the spy's groin and ripped it sideways. Then he kicked him. The Ox grunted. Then he pitched into the river, and the current carried him away." (Page 478)

The Ox was dead—deader than Valtin's conscience.

Believe it or not, this lurid story about the death of Ilia Raikoff is pure poppycock, from start to finish.

Deported from the U. S. after a term in San Quentin penitentiary, Valtin returned to this country as a member of the crew of the S.S. *Ary Lensen*. He skipped ship at Norfolk, Va., March 7, 1938, entering the U. S. illegally. It was on the *Ary Lensen* that Valtin met Ilia Raikoff, ship's carpenter, and dubbed him "The Ox."

Raikoff was born in 1904. He was only 13 when the Russian Revolution occurred. Hence he couldn't have been "a former Czarist officer." Ever heard of a Czarist officer of 13? A Czar, yes; a Czarevich, possibly, but a "Czarist officer" never.

If Ilia Raikoff was killed on that fateful day (or was it night?) then Jan Valtin has made a signal contribu-

tion not only to *belles lettres* but to the theory of resurrection as well.

For Ilia Raikoff of *Out of the Night* is not dead.

He is very much alive.

He is a private in the U. S. Army, now training for the fight against Valtin's Nazi friends.

Ilia Raikoff, "The Ox" of Valtin's book, is now stationed at Camp Pickett, Virginia, having been inducted early in November, 1942.

The name of *Reader's Digest's* publisher—DeWitt Wallace—blossomed out into the headlines when the teletype began to relay the news that U. S. authorities had ordered Valtin arrested.

Gov. Culbert Olson of California, chagrined that he had been deceived into pardoning Valtin-Krebs for the crime he committed in 1926 (he had been released on parole after serving three years of a ten-year sentence), made public the names of those who urged him to "clear" Valtin's name.

High on the list of sponsors for the man who is now held as a dangerous enemy alien was the publisher of *Reader's Digest*. Other names were those of Eugene Lyons, editor of the *American Mercury*; George Backer, former publisher of *The New York Post*; Freda Kirchwey of *The Nation*, and others.

Wallace and Lyons had been most active in sponsoring Valtin and his book and helped turn him into a



“literary” celebrity. Lyons was the “discoverer” of Valtin, having published an article by him in *The Mercury* nearly two years before the appearance of *Out of the Night*. Later Valtin became a frequent contributor to the publication, and there is a strong suspicion that Lyons’ relation to the book was not entirely platonic.

Wallace not only used a huge chunk of the *Reader’s Digest* for a condensation of *Out of the Night* but also followed it up by an “original” piece, entitled “American Dawn.”

The owner and publisher of *Reader’s Digest* bears a special responsibility for having helped to “sell” this pro-fascist adventurer to the American people.

The action of the U. S. Government in arresting Valtin-Krebs prompts the question: What interest did his friends, such as Wallace and Lyons, have in promoting this questionable character, and why did they urge Gov. Olson to “clear” his name?

Americans will be wondering why the Department of Justice does not put this question to Wallace, Lyons and other suspiciously loyal friends of Valtin-Krebs.

The “objective” and “impartial” *Reader’s Digest* printed *Out of the Night* as part of a publication program which included effusions by Max Eastman (its newest “roving” editor) entitled, “Socialism Doesn’t Jibe With Human Nature”; “We Are Already Invaded,” an attack on the CIO, the Communist Party and other

Labor and progressive organizations by Stanley High, who has been conducting a relentless campaign against the New Deal; it published an article by Bertram D. Wolfe entitled, "The Silent Soviet Revolution," which the editors introduced with: "The new USSR—Is it any better than Russia under the Czar?"

Stanley High burst forth with an attack on the consumers' groups in an article in the Oct. 1939, issue.

This article, taken almost bodily from the publicity handouts issued by J. B. Matthews, Dies Committee "expert," purported to give "evidence that under the guise of the 'Consumers' Movement' radicals are attacking our entire economic system."

### *Urges Negotiated Peace*

One of the brassiest jobs of its kind was the "reprint" of "California's 'Grapes of Wrath'," by one Frank J. Taylor. The author here sought to show that Steinbeck's poverty-stricken agricultural workers were non-existent.

Other *Reader's Digest* "features" included a condensation of Eugene Lyons' "Stalin—Czar of all the Russias," which the pro-Nazi Hearst press found eminently suitable for serial publication: "Stalin's Ural Stronghold," by John Scott, an ambitious young journalist expelled from the Soviet Union and plying the trade in

the Eugene Lyons tradition; and "Must the World Destroy Itself," by Freda Uteley.

The latter article, published in the October, 1941, issue, was an out-and-out plea for a negotiated peace with Hitler.

It was this pro-fascist propagandist, incidentally, who in her book, *The Dream We Lost*, provided the world with a political self-portrait by asserting that, "As regards the Russian people, they would gain not lose by being ruled under German tutelage. . . ." Her book, containing these fascist sentiments, was praised by Norman Thomas in a review in the *Modern Quarterly*.

An article on Soviet prisons in the July, 1940, issue by one Arthur John Kujala was reprinted from *The Living Age* at a time when that magazine was being financed by Japanese funds as part of an Axis scheme to corrupt American public opinion.

### ***Knifes Russian War Relief***

There are some interesting angles to Max Eastman's venomous article in the December, 1941, issue entitled, "Stalin's American Power." The article, which followed the usual pattern of Dies Committee press releases, contained an attack on Russian War Relief, Inc., an organization which has received the support of hundreds of thousands of Americans of diverse political beliefs and



affiliations. In its publication and on the radio, *Reader's Digest* offered free reprints of Eastman's diatribe. Within a short time, however, so many protests against the article flooded the offices of *Reader's Digest* that the magazine announced, in a form letter, that it had discontinued circularization of the piece.

Obviously in an effort to redeem its loss of prestige due to the reaction to Eastman's scandalous attack upon Russian War Relief, *Reader's Digest*, in its April 1942, issue published "From John Doe to the Russian Front," by Lois Mattaox Miller. This was an original assigned article favorable to Russian War Relief.

In a previous issue it had published "Little Papa Litvinoff," condensed from the Baltimore *Sunday Sun*. This article, while apparently favorable, was a bit of fatuous, sob-sister feature writing.

The magazine's hostility to the Commander-in-Chief was expressed with little inhibition in Stanley High's article, "This Is Not a New Deal War," in the Nov. 1942, issue. In this article High sneered at the "generalizations" in the Atlantic Charter and in Vice-President Henry A. Wallace's famous "Century of the Common Man." High evidently found Mr. Wallace's solemn warning against the "saboteurs of the mind" irritating. . . .

The anti-democratic character of the magazine is further illustrated by its re-publication in "digest" form

of Henry Luce's dream of super-imperialism which he calls "The American Century."

One of the many articles in *Reader's Digest* to cause a national scandal was "The Facts About Jews in Washington," condensed from W. M. Kiplinger's book *Washington Is Like That*. Regardless of the author's subjective ideas about his own attitude, the article was clearly anti-Semitic, indulging in the Goebbels theme to the effect that:

"Jews [in the U. S.] have become concentrated in a few government agencies," and strongly implying the desirability of Jewish quotas.

### ***Attacked by Pearl Buck***

A vigorous and impassioned attack upon this *Reader's Digest* "feature" was made by Pearl Buck in the Sept. 1, 1942, issue of *PM*. After paying ironic respects to the *Reader's Digest's* "usual skilful digesting," Miss Buck, a Pulitzer Prize novelist, wrote:

"'Lie low,' Mr. Kiplinger advises the Jews in effect, 'for your own good, stay in your 4 per cent ghetto'."

*Reader's Digest's* contribution to national disunity brought this sharp rebuke from Miss Buck:

"No, let us have the truth and not a handful of dislocated facts. The truth is that America has nothing to do with percentages of race and sex and religion and

national origins. . . . When anyone here begins inquiring into whether a person is a Jew or Gentile, he is helping Hitler."

Significantly enough, *Reader's Digest*, in its general policy, displays little eagerness to hire Jewish employees.

It is more candid in its discrimination against Negroes. Wallace, owner of the magazine, wrote recently to a community group in Westchester that he couldn't hire Negroes on account of war conditions!

In its January, 1943 issue *Reader's Digest* "reprinted" an article by a Negro writer on the Negro press—which no doubt delighted the leaders of the so-called White Supremacy movement in the Southland.

The piece, an unrestrained attack upon the Negro press, written for the *Saturday Review of Literature*, was "reprinted" by *Reader's Digest*.

Mr. Warren H. Brown, author of the article, engaged in a bitter denunciation of the Negro press which he charged with "sensation-mongering." He talked about a "drive to embitter and unbalance" the Negro "in the incendiary columns of the Negro press."

This article, featured in *Reader's Digest*, aided the same forces of disunity as Milton Mayer's notorious anti-Semitic article in the *Saturday Evening Post* some months earlier.

The publication's attitude toward organized labor can be gleaned from the fact that R. R. Donnelly & Sons,



which prints *Reader's Digest*, is an open shop firm and has been such for the past 37 years. The company, an official of the International Typographical Union charged recently, "refuses in perpetuity to hire union craftsmen."

### ***Shields 'Saboteurs of the Mind'***

Defenders of *Reader's Digest* have pointed to its condensation of *Sabotage—The Secret War Against America*, by Michael Sayers and Albert E. Kahn as proof that the magazine fights the Fifth Column.

This book, a national best-seller which received virtually unanimous critical acclaim, could hardly be ignored by *Reader's Digest*.

But the manner in which it "condensed" this exposé was effectively illuminated by *The Guild Reporter*, organ of the American Newspaper Guild in a full-page analysis headed: "*Reader's Digest* Has Indigestion."

The analysis pointed out, among other things, that:

"The magazine repeats nothing whatever from 'Sabotage' on such disagreeable subjects as Father Coughlin, Martin Dies, Clare Hoffman, Elizabeth Dilling, international cartels linking big business in the U. S. with Hitler, the America First Committee, appeasement publishers of newspapers."

The very nature of *Reader's Digest* enables it to be

more subtle than Col. Robert McCormick's *Chicago Tribune* or Capt. Joseph Medill Patterson's *Daily News*, the New York end of this newspaper axis. However, a study of the magazine's contents during the recent critical period in American life proves it to be one of the most dangerous adjuncts of the Copperhead press of the U. S.

How long will this repository of defeatism under the fraudulent title of "Digest" be permitted to hoodwink millions of Americans and to poison the springs of our war endeavor?

The author desires to express appreciation to the DAILY WORKER and THE WORKER for permission to use material which originally appeared in his column, "Constant Reader."



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